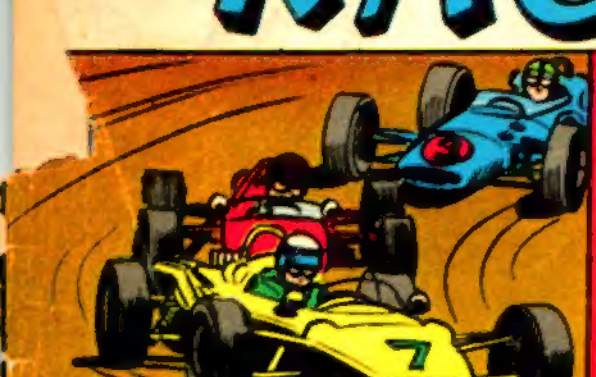
HOT RODS & RACERS

12¢

MAY

HOT KUD RACERS

COMICS CODE AUTHORITY



FEATURING

RICK ROBERTS

in

PART 3 of

"DAY of the CAT"

and

CLINT CURTIS

in

PART 3 of

"GOLDEN BOY"

$20 U.S. Gold Coin Only $

ew Ram Jet Engine Burns Gasoline !

JET ENGINE

For boats, cars, plane models, jet engine experiments, science of jet propulsion, etc. No moving parts. Easy to start. Runs on standard gasoline. Gives continual thrust. About 6-inches long. Adaptable to most models. Comes complete. Get two for more power!

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Electrostatic Generator

LIGHTS UP

BUILD THIS 250 Power Telescope

ASTRONOMICAL & TERRESTRIAL TELESCOPE

CRATERS OF MOON, RINGS OF SATURN, MOONS OF JUPITER, SUNSPOTS, STARS, CORONAS, STARS, GALAXIES and many other fascinating sky phenomena. Imagine the more 250 times wider & bigger. Explore secrets of sky! Watch the adventures of the ASTRONAUTS. Also serves as powerful telescope that makes things on earth 250 times larger. Object 1 miles distant seem only 66 feet away!

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Rubber Masks

Precision Miniature Camera

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No. 4897. Camera with Pigskin Leather Ever Ready case $1.50

No. 4898. Film. 15¢ per Roll; 3 rolls 40¢

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New set brings in regular stations, world wide foreign stations, short wave, police calls, amateur, ham, marine, commercial, etc. Portable, compact size made possible by a transistor circuit. Sensitive tuning, good volume control. Uses standard flashlight cells. Only 5 x 4 x 4". Weighs one pound. Complete operating instructions. Gives loud speaker volume on near-by stations.

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6952. Hearing-Aid-Type Phone Postpaid $1.50

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LIGHTS UP

Touch ball to person or object to discharge shock. Loads forever. Harmless.

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No. 2142. 20¢ 3 for 50¢ 12 for $1.50

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8 power. Magnifies 64 times area. Tapers down in a small vest-pocket telescope about size of fountain pen. Precision ground lenses of metal drawing tough. Also used as 30X microscope giving 900 times area.

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Chew it and lips pucker up!

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Garlic (Awful) Gum

The Flavor Lasts. Know breath for hrs.

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No. 2962 Price Postpaid 3 for 40¢ **15¢**

Smoke Bomb Powder

Handsome Man's Wig

Boss-trimmed adult style wig, excellent for any guise or character party. Has ears on top, neatly combed in place. Synthetic hair. Looks just like real hair. Trim to suit. Lined.

No. 4319. Blond Wig . . . $2.50

No. 4319A. Brunette Wig . . $2.50

CARBIDE CANNON

$5.95

Sounds like dynamite blast! BRILLIANT FLASH! Mighty roar echoes for blocks. Fire July 4th noise-maker, starting auto, celebrations, etc. Safe. No recoil. Simply grate of shots for few cents. Uses carbide of heavy cast iron. Fires any brand firecracker. Ideal for boys, men. Attractively made of heavy cast iron.

Big Bang!

No. 7383. 9" Cannon $5.95. No. 7384A. 17" $9.95

No. 7385. Ammunition. 50¢ Tube (500 Shots)

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DeLuxe High School Graduation Ring

Mounting Man's Military Style Ring with Synthetic Ruby. Special cut makes it sparkle with brilliant red fire. Heavy mounting with raised "HIGH SCHOOL" in panel. American Eagle in deep relief on each side. Antique gold finish. Sizes 9 to 12.

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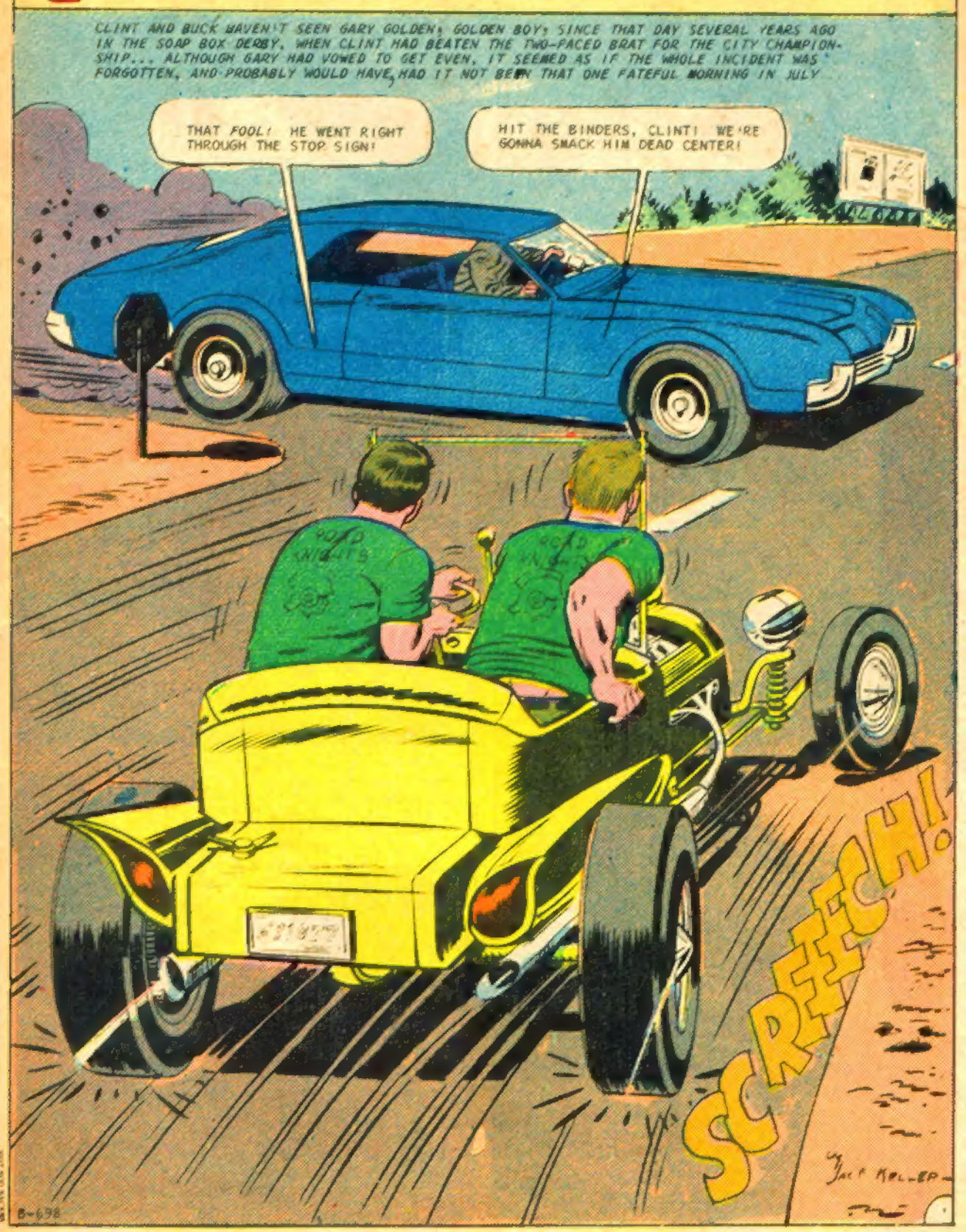
PART III

CLINT CURTIS MEETS THE GOLDEN BOY


CLINT AND BUCK HAVEN'T SEEN GARY GOLDEN, GOLDEN BOY, SINCE THAT DAY SEVERAL YEARS AGO IN THE SOAP BOX DERBY, WHEN CLINT HAD BEATEN THE TWO-FACED BRAT FOR THE CITY CHAMPIONSHIP... ALTHOUGH GARY HAD VOWED TO GET EVEN, IT SEEMED AS IF THE WHOLE INCIDENT WAS FORGOTTEN, AND PROBABLY WOULD HAVE, HAD IT NOT BEEN THAT ONE FATEFUL MORNING IN JULY
THAT FOOL! HE WENT RIGHT THROUGH THE STOP SIGN!
HIT THE BINDERS, CLINT! WE'RE GONNA SMACK HIM DEAD CENTER!
SCREECH!!
by Jack Keller
B-698

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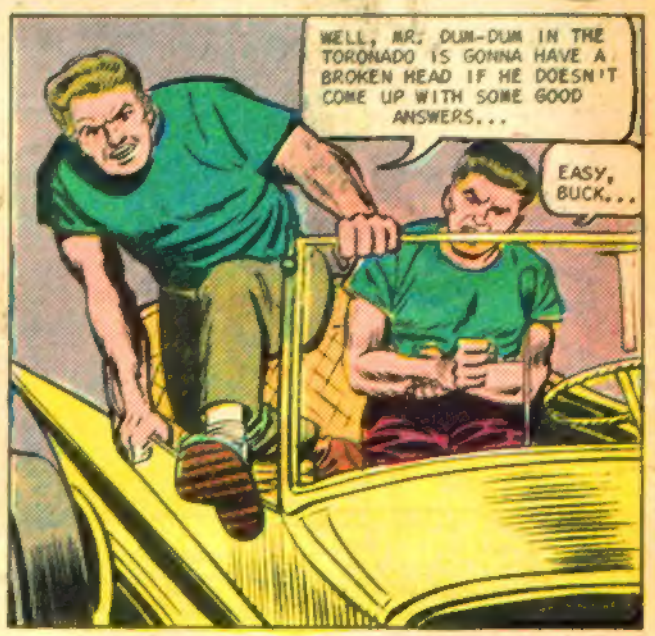
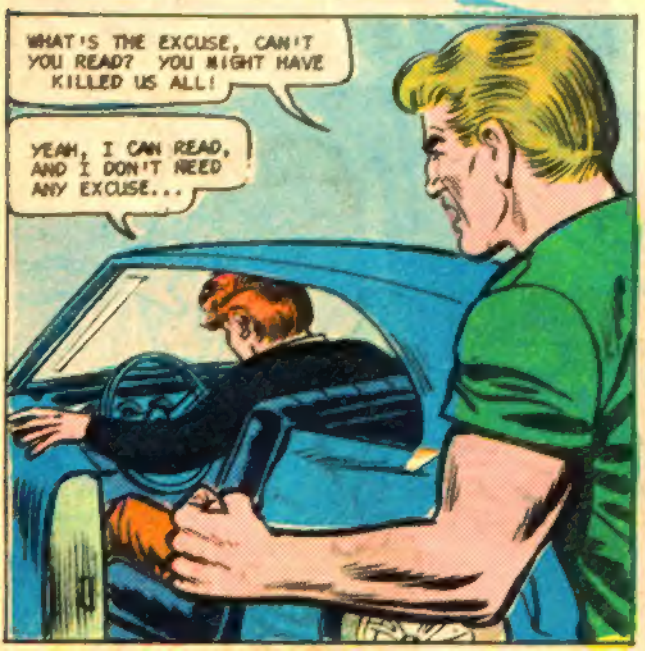
HE'S FORCING US OFF THE ROAD!

WATCH OUT! THAT BIG ROCK! TOO LATE...
OW! MY ARM!

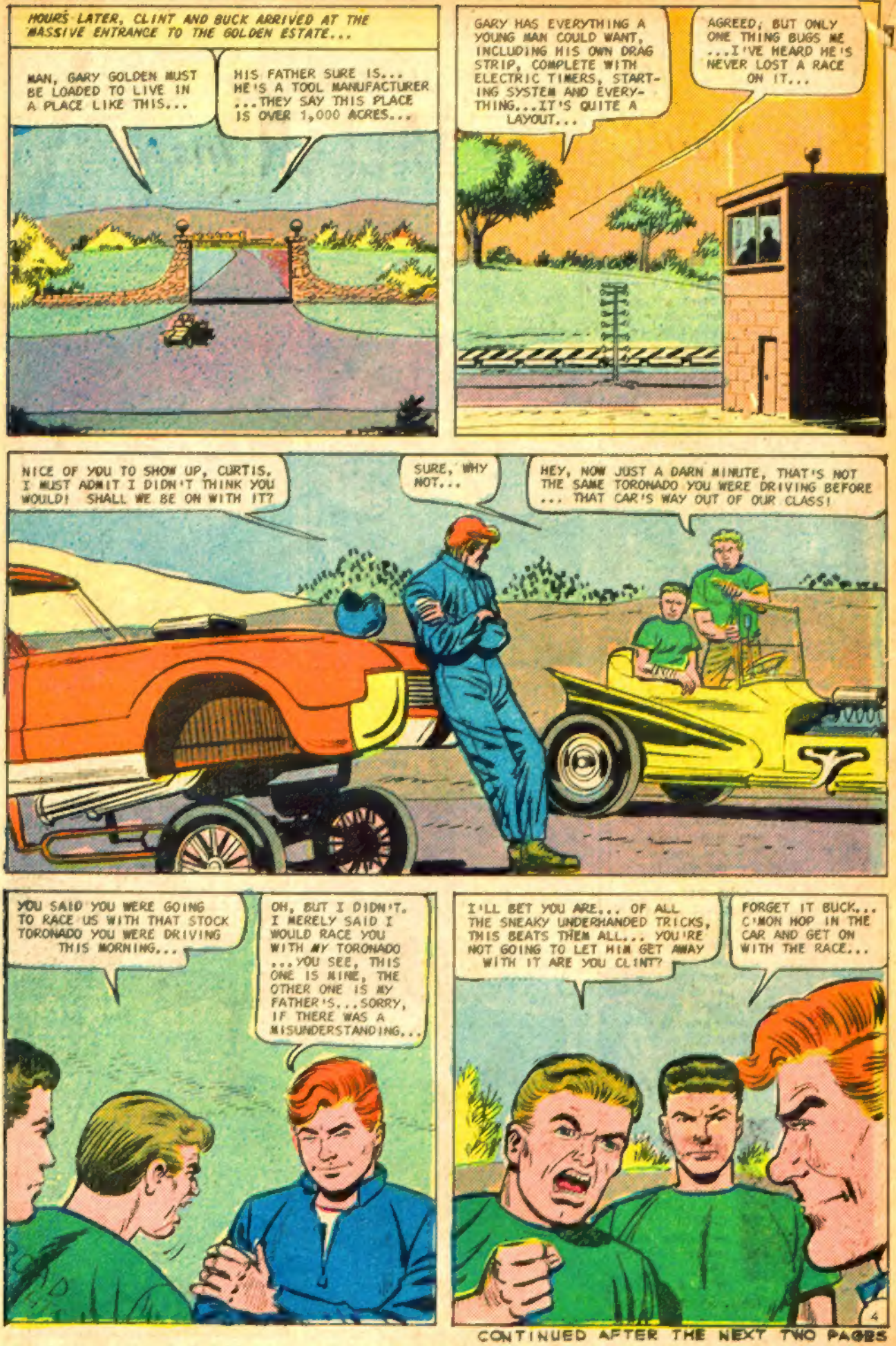
SECONDS LATER, CLINT MANAGED TO STOP THE BOUNCING, GYRATING CAR...
YOUR ARM HURT BAD, CLINT?
NO, I DON'T THINK THE WRIST IS BROKEN, PROBABLY JUST A BAD SPRAIN!


WELL, MR. DUM-DUM IN THE TORONADO IS GONNA HAVE A BROKEN HEAD IF HE DOESN'T COME UP WITH SOME GOOD ANSWERS...
EASY, BUCK...


WHAT'S THE EXCUSE, CAN'T YOU READ? YOU MIGHT HAVE KILLED US ALL!
YEAH, I CAN READ, AND I DON'T NEED ANY EXCUSE...

I DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER TO ANYBODY-- NOT ME, GARY GOLDEN...
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE HIM AGAIN...
GULP IT'S GOLDEN BOY!
ROAD KNIGHTS
2

IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR DRIVING MANNERS HAVEN'T IMPROVED WITH THE YEARS...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT MY MANNERS, I ACT AS I PLEASE... WITH MY FATHER'S MONEY, I CAN AFFORD TO...WHAT ARE YOU HOLDING YOUR WRIST FOR, CURTIS? IF YOU THINK FAKING AN INJURY WILL GET YOU SOME EASY MONEY, FORGET IT...
MY WRIST IS SPRAINED, AND MY CAR HAS A BENT FRONT AXEL... BUT I WOULDN'T TOUCH YOUR FATHER'S MONEY WITH A TEN FOOT POLE... I'LL TAKE CARE OF THINGS MYSELF...
HOW TERRIBLY, TERRIBLY NOBLE... OF COURSE, IT ALSO GIVES YOU AN EXCUSE NOT TO RACE ME IN A REAL MAN'S RACE, NOT KID STUFF LIKE BEFORE...
YOU LUCKED THROUGH AND BEAT ME WHEN WE WERE KIDS, BUT I'LL BET YOU COULDN'T TOUCH ME IN A REAL CAR... I'D LIKE TO RACE MY TORONADO AGAINST YOUR GLORIFIED TRASH CAN IN A QUARTER MILE DRAG AT MY FATHER'S ESTATE... BUT I'M SURE YOU CAN'T MAKE IT SINCE YOU HURT YOUR ARM SO SERIOUSLY...
SAVE THE PHONY SYMPATHY GOLDEN... I'LL TAKE YOU ON JUST AS SOON AS WE CAN REPLACE THAT FRONT AXEL... THAT IS, IF BUCK CAN GO ALONG FOR THE RIDE...
WHY NOT? IT'LL BE A PLEASURE SEEING BOTH OF YOUR FACES WHEN I PRUNE YOU... BUT YOU GOTTA DRIVE CURTIS, 'CAUSE YOU'RE THE ONE I WANTA BEAT...
SEE YOU AT 5:30... THAT SHOULD GIVE YOU ENOUGH TIME TO MAKE YOUR REPAIRS, JUST DON'T CHICKEN OUT...
DON'T WORRY, WE'LL BE THERE...
VROOM!
CLINT, HAVE YOU FLIPPED? YOU CAN'T RACE TODAY... HOW ARE YOU GONNA SHIFT GEARS WITH THAT BAD WRIST?
THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN, BUDDY... THIS IS GOING TO BE A TWO-MAN OPERATION ...I DRIVE AND YOU SHIFT...
SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT I'LL DO IT...
3


HOURS LATER, CLINT AND BUCK ARRIVED AT THE MASSIVE ENTRANCE TO THE GOLDEN ESTATE...
MAN, GARY GOLDEN MUST BE LOADED TO LIVE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...
HIS FATHER SURE IS... HE'S A TOOL MANUFACTURER ...THEY SAY THIS PLACE IS OVER 1,000 ACRES...
GARY HAS EVERYTHING A YOUNG MAN COULD WANT, INCLUDING HIS OWN DRAG STRIP, COMPLETE WITH ELECTRIC TIMERS, STARTING SYSTEM AND EVERYTHING...IT'S QUITE A LAYOUT...
AGREED; BUT ONLY ONE THING BUGS ME ...I'VE HEARD HE'S NEVER LOST A RACE ON IT...
NICE OF YOU TO SHOW UP, CURTIS. I MUST ADMIT I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD! SHALL WE BE ON WITH IT?
SURE, WHY NOT...
HEY, NOW JUST A DARN MINUTE, THAT'S NOT THE SAME TORONADO YOU WERE DRIVING BEFORE ... THAT CAR'S WAY OUT OF OUR CLASS!
YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO RACE US WITH THAT STOCK TORONADO YOU WERE DRIVING THIS MORNING...
OH, BUT I DIDN'T. I MERELY SAID I WOULD RACE YOU WITH MY TORONADO ...YOU SEE, THIS ONE IS MINE, THE OTHER ONE IS MY FATHER'S...SORRY, IF THERE WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING...
I'LL BET YOU ARE... OF ALL THE SNEAKY UNDERHANDED TRICKS, THIS BEATS THEM ALL... YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LET HIM GET AWAY WITH IT ARE YOU CLINT?
FORGET IT BUCK... C'MON HOP IN THE CAR AND GET ON WITH THE RACE...
4

CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT TWO PAGES

Never Look SHORT Again!

Now You Can Be TALLER Instantly!

By at least 2 full inches with amazing new invisible "LIFTEE" HEIGHT INCREASE PADS

Are you handicapped in your social contacts because of a short appearance . . . tired of being called shorty? Now, at last you need not suffer this embarrassment any longer with the aid of "LIFTEE", the new amazing **HEIGHT INCREASE PADS.** Simply slip these invisible pads in any pair of shoes. Now step into them and add 2 inches in height. **THE SAME HEIGHT INCREASE AS EXPENSIVE HEIGHT INCREASING SHOES.** No one will suspect that you are wearing them — but what an impressive difference they make! These **LIGHTWEIGHT FOAM RUBBER AND CUSHION CORK PADS** fit securely without gluing and interchangeable in any shoes. "LIFTEE" is scientifically designed for real walking comfort and an aid to better posture. Worn by thousands of smart men and women in all walks of life. Durable and shock absorbing.

INVITE ROMANCE AND BE ADMIRED AND RESPECTED BY THE OPPOSITE SEX

You shall be admired more by women who always like their men to be taller than themselves. Don't be left out of social life and dates because of short height. The taller man is always more popular, looks better in clothes and is in great demand at parties and dances. Being taller will give you more self-confidence and poise — a key to success and romance. Being taller will produce and cause *more* admiration and you shall be respected more in every walk of life by both women and men.

EARN MORE MONEY — BEING TALLER HELPS YOU FIND AND QUALIFY FOR THE BEST JOBS

It is well known that making a taller appearance helps you find the best jobs and earn more money in spare time or full time. With your new height comes a gain in self confidence and prestige that is literally priceless when you are seeking a better position. Being taller will help motivate your success. You may assume greater leadership, seek out lucrative opportunities and help put yourself on easy street for the rest of your life.

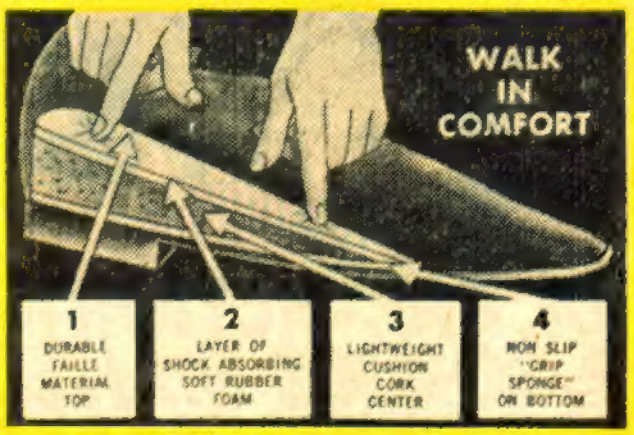
WHY SPEND MORE ON COSTLY CUSTOM MADE OR BUILT UP SHOES?

That's why thousands of men in all walks of life are using "Liftee" Height Pads, which are interchangeable in all shoes without gluing, to secretly build up their height. The cost is only a fraction of what you pay a manufacturer who charges up to $50 or more per pair of built up shoes; even though you accomplish the same HEIGHT INCREASE results. The price of $1.98 to be 2 inches taller and the added poise and confidence that comes from wearing "Liftee" Height Pads is certainly a low price for you to pay for increasing your height.

LIFTEE'S AMAZING INVISIBLE HEIGHT BUILDING SECRET!

You elevate yourself instantly with these invisible pads inside your shoes and only YOU know the secret. No one will ever say that you have elevated height (or wearing ELEVATED HEIGHT) as with conspicuously built up shoes. You not only look taller, you stand straight and walk erect. Many will actually think you have grown TALLER.

FEEL THE SCIENTIFICALLY DESIGNED COMFORTABLE CUSHION CONSTRUCTION OF LIFTEE HEIGHT PADS.



SEND NO MONEY!

Free 10 Day Trial!

ONLY $1.98 per pair

Amazing Low Price

Just mail coupon today

Send name and address. Pay postman on delivery, only $1.98 plus postage per pair of "LIFTEE" HEIGHT INCREASE PADS. Or send only $1.98 with order and we pay postage. State man's or woman's shoe size. **10 DAY TRIAL MUST SATISFY OR MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED.**

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Rush my "Liftee" Height Increase Pads in the size checked below. I will pay postman on delivery only $1.98 plus postage. I must be absolutely satisfied or I can return the pads within 10 day trial and my money will be refunded.

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☐ Mens Shoe Size _____ ☐ Ladies Shoe Size _____

☐ Check here if you wish to save postage by sending only $1.98 with coupon. Same money back guarantee

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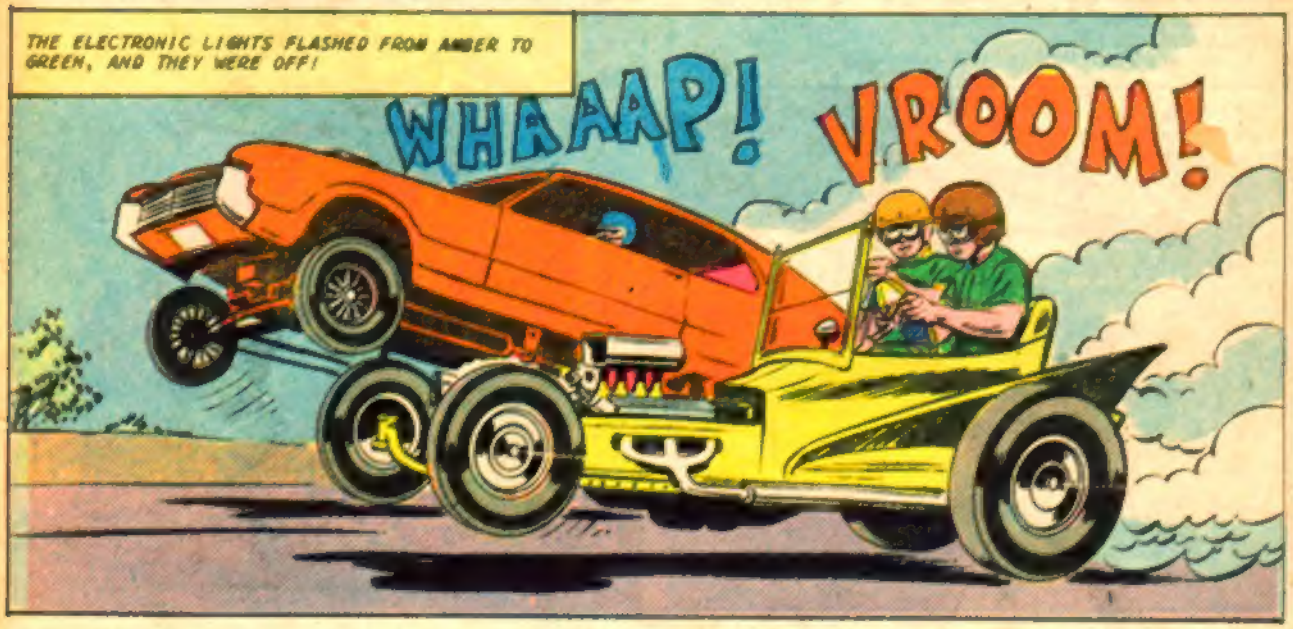
NAME.----------AGE-----

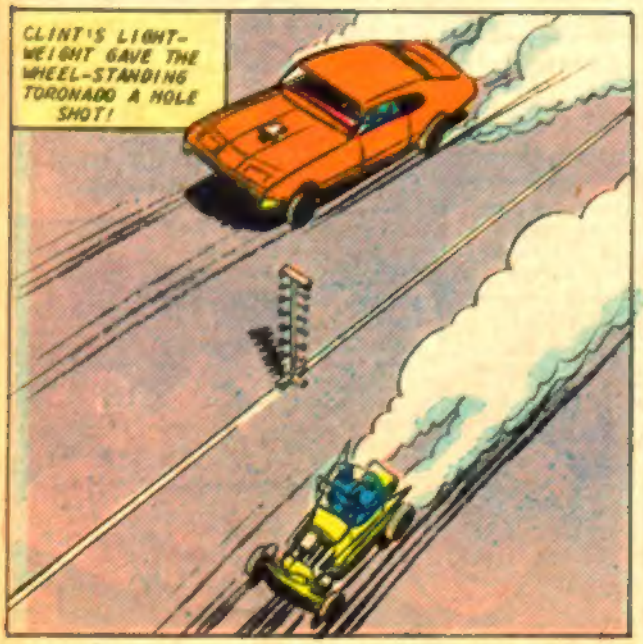
ADDRESS.----------

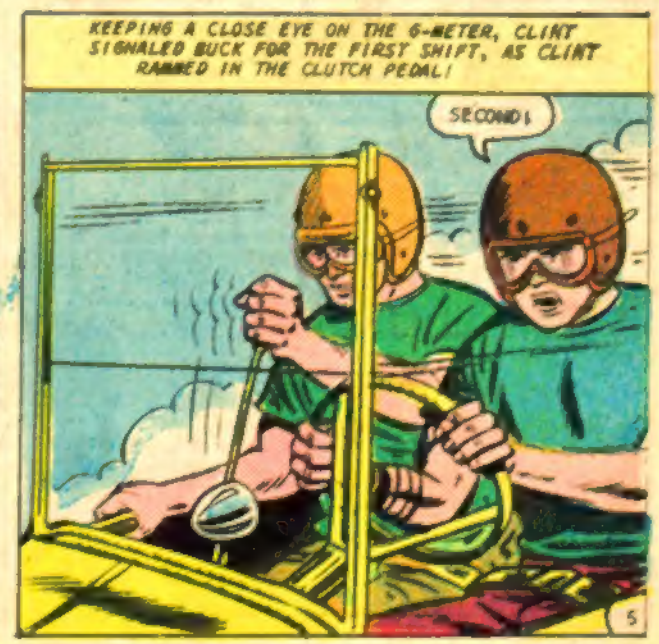
CITY.-------STATE.----ZIP.---

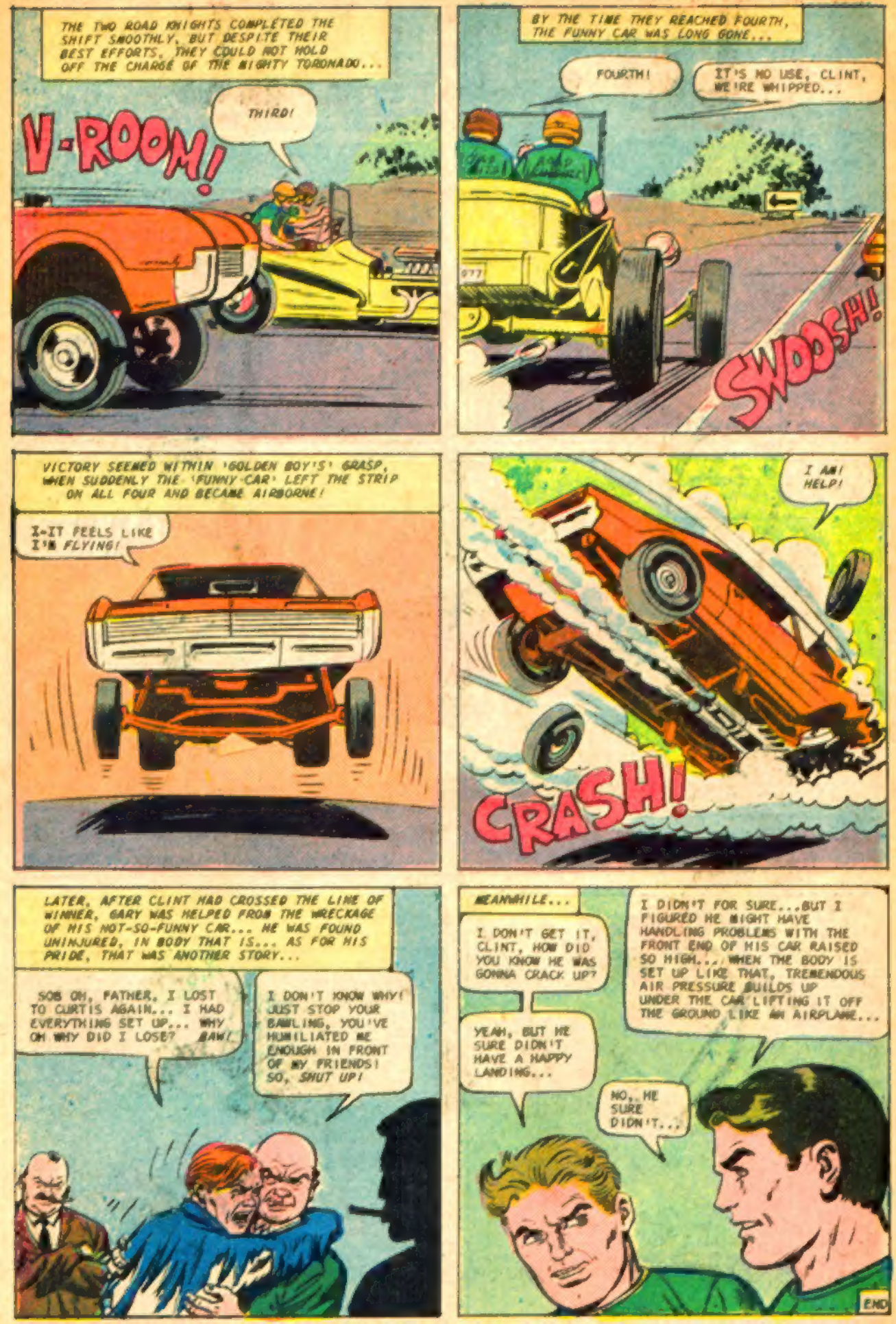
BUT, CLINT, WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE...YOUR CAR IS FAST BUT IT'S JUST A STREET ROD, AND IT CAN'T POSSIBLY COMPETE WITH GOLDEN'S FUNNY CAR.
I KNOW, BUT I STILL THINK WE MIGHT WIN... C'MON I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT LATER...

MEANWHILE, OBSERVING THE UP-COMING RACE FROM THE CONTROL TOWER, WERE GARY GOLDEN'S FATHER G.J. GOLDEN AND SOME OTHER V.I.P.'S...
GARY'S ABOUT TO GIVE ANOTHER HOT RODDER SOME DRIVING LESSONS.
HEH, HEH, YOU'VE GOT QUITE A BOY THERE, G.J.
A "GOLDEN BOY"!


THE ELECTRONIC LIGHTS FLASHED FROM AMBER TO GREEN, AND THEY WERE OFF!
WHAAAP!
VROOM!


CLINT'S LIGHT-WEIGHT GAVE THE WHEEL-STANDING TORONADO A HOLE SHOT!


KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON THE G-METER, CLINT SIGNALED BUCK FOR THE FIRST SHIFT, AS CLINT RAMMED IN THE CLUTCH PEDAL!
SECOND!


THE TWO ROAD KNIGHTS COMPLETED THE SHIFT SMOOTHLY, BUT DESPITE THEIR BEST EFFORTS, THEY COULD NOT HOLD OFF THE CHARGE OF THE MIGHTY TORONADO...
V-ROOM!
THIRD!
BY THE TIME THEY REACHED FOURTH, THE FUNNY CAR WAS LONG GONE...
FOURTH!
IT'S NO USE, CLINT, WE'RE WHIPPED...
SWOOSH!
VICTORY SEEMED WITHIN 'GOLDEN BOY'S' GRASP, WHEN SUDDENLY THE 'FUNNY CAR' LEFT THE STRIP ON ALL FOUR AND BECAME AIRBORNE!
I-IT FEELS LIKE I'M FLYING!
I AM! HELP!
CRASH!
LATER, AFTER CLINT HAD CROSSED THE LINE OF WINNER, GARY WAS HELPED FROM THE WRECKAGE OF HIS NOT-SO-FUNNY CAR... HE WAS FOUND UNINJURED, IN BODY THAT IS... AS FOR HIS PRIDE, THAT WAS ANOTHER STORY...
SOB OH, FATHER, I LOST TO CURTIS AGAIN... I HAD EVERYTHING SET UP... WHY OH WHY DID I LOSE? BAW!
I DON'T KNOW WHY! JUST STOP YOUR BAWLING, YOU'VE HUMILIATED ME ENOUGH IN FRONT OF MY FRIENDS! SO, SHUT UP!
MEANWHILE...
I DON'T GET IT, CLINT, HOW DID YOU KNOW HE WAS GONNA CRACK UP?
I DIDN'T FOR SURE...BUT I FIGURED HE MIGHT HAVE HANDLING PROBLEMS WITH THE FRONT END OF HIS CAR RAISED SO HIGH... WHEN THE BODY IS SET UP LIKE THAT, TREMENDOUS AIR PRESSURE BUILDS UP UNDER THE CAR LIFTING IT OFF THE GROUND LIKE AN AIRPLANE...
YEAH, BUT HE SURE DIDN'T HAVE A HAPPY LANDING...
NO, HE SURE DIDN'T...
END

LITTLE LULU'

MR. WALL, OUR SPONSOR, SAYS WE'D BETTER WI THIS TOP ELIMINATOR OR TURN IN OUR WRENCHES. I'VE GOT MY FINGERS AND TOES CROSSED AS BASH EGAN, MY BUDDY AND THE DRIVER OF THE FUELER, BURIES THE GAS COMING OUT OF THE GATE! HE'S TRYING FOR A HOLE-SHOT... BUT ALL HE GETS IS A BIG LOUD BANG WHEN THE MILL COMES APART!

BANG!

OH, NO!

KRASSHH!

GOT TO GET HIM OUT!

BASH IS GROGGY... THE COVERALLS AND FACE MASK HAVE SAVED HIM SO FAR... BUT THAT RIG MIGHT BLOW UP ANY SECOND!
COME ON, BASH, MOVE IT!
WHOOOM!
YOU TWO CLOWNS REALLY COST ME A WAD OF DOUGH THIS TIME! GET AWAY FROM ME, YOU BUNGLERS!
WAIT A MINUTE! YOU...
COME ON, BASH! IF WE DIDN'T HAVE TO STICK THIS CLUNKER TOGETHER WITH CHEWING GUM AND TAPE THE ENGINE WOULDN'T HAVE BLOWN.
BASH IS DRIVING HIS OLD BOMB, A '62 OLDS THAT IS USED FOR EVERYTHING FROM HAULING MANURE TO TOWING A HAY-WAGON... HE PULL IN AT HIS PLACE OUT OF HABIT.
MAYBE DAD'LL BE GLAD I GOOFED. I'LL STICK AROUND THE FARM AND GIVE HIM A HAND WITH THE CHORES.
BASH TOLD HIS FATHER WHAT HAD HAPPENED...
NEVER DID LIKE AARON WALL. HE HAD YOU KIDS WORKIN' FOR NOTHIN' TO GIVE HIM FREE ADVERTISIN FOR HIS GARAGE. GONNA QUIT HOT RODDIN' NOW?
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE, MR. EGAN.
2

SEEMS TO ME YOU MIGHT PUT A CAR TOGETHER OUT OF ALL THIS JUNK. I GOT SOME IDLE TIME ON MY HANDS!
KNOW WHAT I'D LIKE TO TRY, MR. EGAN?
THIS ENGINE'S PRETTY GOOD... BUT FOR A DRAGSTRIP? I DUNNO...
WE CAN GET IT OVERBORED AND STROKE IT A HALF, OR FIVE-EIGHTHS.
WE START WORK THAT SAME DAY. BASH'S FATHER HAS A LOT OF TOOLS AND WE'LL DO SOME OF THE WORK RIGHT HERE...
AFTER WE PAY FOR THE OVERBORE AND BUY A FEW OF THE GOODIES, WE WON'T HAVE MUCH LOOT LEFT, BASH.
I DON'T HAVE ANY NOW, BUDDY. POP'S FOOTIN' MY SHARE OF THE BILLS.
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, I FORGET THAT BASH'S FATHER STUDIED ENGINEERING AND ALSO WORKED AROUND THE TRACKS WHEN HE WAS OUR AGE. HE DESIGNED THE CHASSIS AND WELDED THE [redacted] TUBING.
MMMMMFFF, GARBLE, OKAY.
YOU FIGURE THAT RUNNING WITH A HILBORN INJECTOR AND A BLOWER BURNING GAS WILL DO THE JOB, MR. EGAN?
3

CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT PAGE

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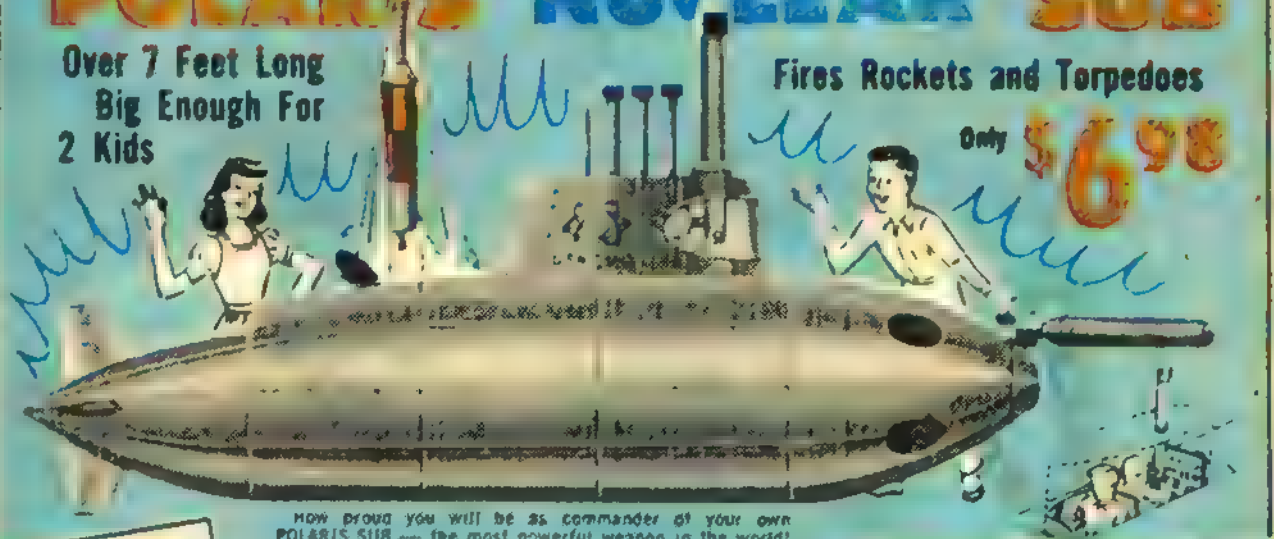

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IT TAKES A LOT OF WORK AND THE WEEKS GO INTO MONTHS. I'M WORKING ANOTHER JOB AFTER CLASSES (MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, JUNIOR COLLEGE) BUT I STILL MANAGE TO PUT TIME IN ON OUR PROJECT...
DAD'S ENJOYING THIS MORE THAN US, DOC!
HE'S GOT GREAT IDEAS ABOUT ENGINES, BASH! THIS MILL IS PRETTY SOUND...
BEFORE, WHEN WE WERE RUNNING FOR WALL, I DIDN'T WORRY ABOUT BREAKING IT UP,..BUT THIS TIME I KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY AND WORK WENT INTO INTO THIS... I'LL BE TOO CAREFUL!
THEN, IT'S ALMOST FINISHED. WE VE RUN THE ENGINE...IT'S TUNED PRETTY FINE. THE M&H SLICKS ARE ON THE BACK, THE SMALL PIRELLIS UP FRONT...
WE'RE RUNNING IN AF/A COMPETITION...
LITTLE LULU
44 AF/A
DON'T EXPECT A WIN IN THE FIRST TIME OUT, BOYS! IF WE GO DOWN THE LINE IN ELEVEN SECONDS WE'RE LUCKY!
WE LL GET A TEN-FIVE TODAY, MR. EGAN! THIS CAR WILL MOVE!

WE MAKE SOME PRACTICE RUNS. RE-TUNE IT, ADJUST THE ROLLERS AND ROCKER ARMS, AND NOW SHE'S READY...

YOUR FIRST RUN IS AGAINST A CHEVY... I HEAR IT CAN BEAT TEN-FIVE ON A GOOD DAY SO DO YOUR BEST!

LITTLE LULU

THE LIGHTS GO DOWN...AND THEN IT'S GREEN... AND HE FEEDS IT THE JUICE!

VROOOM

VROOOOM

BASH IS OVER-ANXIOUS AND HE PULLS A MOON-SHOT ... MY HEART ALMOST STOPS AS I WAIT FOR IT TO SWERVE AND WRECK THE WHOLE SHMEAR!

VROOOM

VROOOM!

612 AF/A

44 AF/A

IT DOESN'T SWERVE! AND BASH DOESN'T HIT THE PANIC BUTTON AND GET OFF THE GAS, WRECKING OUR FRONT END!

LITTLE LULU

44 AF/A

THAT'S IT, BASH... YOU'RE DOIN' GREAT!

MISSING PAGE

(WHADDYA WANT FOR NOTHING?)

MISSING PAGE

(WHADDYA WANT FOR NOTHING?)

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(WHADDYA WANT FOR NOTHING?)

MISSING PAGE

(WHADDYA WANT FOR NOTHING?)

DAD'S OKAY. HE TAKES A LOT OF RIBBING ABOUT HIS CREAMPUFF... (US KIDS REALLY LOVE THE BOAT BUT WE DON'T TELL HIM THAT.)
YOU OUGHTA OWN TWO HOUSES, MR. KILNER, SO YOU CAN PARK IT OUT FRONT.
GO ON, BE FUNNY...
HOW ABOUT LENDING US THE OLDS TO GO TO THE DRIVE-IN, DAD?
SORRY FOLKS. I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO BE DISGRACED BY BEING SEEN IN MY MONSTER.
LATER, WE TALK ABOUT DAD'S BIG CAR...
KNOW SOMETHING, JOJO? DAD SAYS THAT HE COULD PRUNE THIS BABY UNDER THE PROPER CIRCUMSTANCES.
HE AIN'T GOT A PRAYER, KILLER.
CHAMP'S
HOT DOGS · HAMBURGERS
THE LAST VISIT TO A DIGYARD FOR THE YEAR... IN NOVEMBER AND IT'S GETTING TOO COLD FOR HANGING AROUND ABANDONED AIRPORTS!
GETTING TIME TO PUT IT AWAY TILL NEXT YEAR, LEW.
I BELIEVE YOU, DAD.
THIS LOAD SITS STEADY, DAD. IT HAS SOME GOOD FEATURES...

THIS IS A TRI-STATE DRAG. I DON'T FIGURE TO MAKE THE TOP IN MY CLASS BUT IT'LL BE FUN TRYING.

I JUST HEARD THE WEATHER FORECAST, BOYS! WE MIGHT GET SNOWED IN IF WE HANG AROUND TOO LONG.

IT'S TOO EARLY FOR THAT, DAD. GET MOVING JOJO, YOUR COMET'S NEXT IN THE GATE.

TRY NOT TO BURN OFF TOO MUCH RUBBER AT THE START, JOJO. YOU'LL PRUNE HIM AT THE TOP END!

WE HOPE.

JOJO'S BATTLING A '66 C.U. CHEVELLE... AND THEY'RE REALLY PEELING OUT OF THE HOLES!

THIS'LL BE THE LAST DRAG, LEW. WATCH YOURSELF... IT'S WET... YOU MIGHT SKID A LITTLE.

I'LL BE OKAY, JOJO! YOU WON YOUR CLASS ...NOW I'M OUT TO WIN IN MINE.

CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT PAGE

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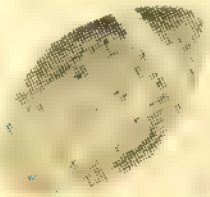

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I DUMP THE CLUTCH AND BURY THE GAS ANYHOW... FOR A MINUTE I FEEL THE BITE AND I'M ON MY WAY...

...BUT THEN ONE WHEEL SPINS AND I'M SKITTERING TOWARD THE FENCE.

THIS DID IT!

WELL, THAT'S THAT. WE'LL LEAVE IT HERE, LEW, YOU CAN GET TOWED BACK ON A NICER DAY!

I'M NOT TAKING IT EASY ON THE WAY BACK SO YOU CAN KEEP UP, MR. KILMER.

REMEMBER I TOLD YOU KIDS I COULD PRUNE YOUR FUNNY CARS UNDER THE RIGHT CONDITIONS? TODAY IS THE DAY...WITHOUT BREAKING ANY SPEED LAWS, I'M GOING TO GET BACK HOME BEFORE YOU.

THAT'S A REAL THIGH-SLAPPER, DAD. JOJO'S COMET CAN RUN RINGS AROUND OUR CAR.

DAD'S OLDS HAD WINTER TIRES ON ALL READY...WITH METAL STUDS SET INTO THE TREAD. HE MOVED LIKE THE STREET WAS DRY..

JOJO KEEPS TRYING TO PASS DAD'S OLDS... BUT HE CAN'T MAKE IT. AND WE BOTH THINK HE'S GOING SLOW SO WE CAN KEEP HIM IN SIGHT.
ICE DOESN'T BOTHER THAT CREAMPUFF. YOU'D THINK IT WAS ON TRACKS.
WATCH IT, JOJO!
DAD HAS A CHAIN, NATCH, AND HE RUBS IT IN PLENTY WHILE HE HOOKS IT ONTO THE COMET'S BUMPER...
I'VE GOT STRAP-ON CHAINS THAT FIT ANY SIZE WHEEL, JOJO! I'LL LET YOU HAVE THEM AFTER I GET YOU OUT OF THE DITCH.
ALWAYS REMEMBER WHEN A FELLOW MAKES A BRAG, HE MAY BE ABLE TO BACK IT UP!
I STILL DON'T BELIEVE IT!
IT'S THE FRONT-WHEEL DRIVE. THE ENGINE IS OVER THE DRIVING WHEELS, GIVING HIM BEAUTIFUL TRACTION AND HE PULLS RIGHT THROUGH CURVES AT SPEEDS THAT SPIN US OUT!
END

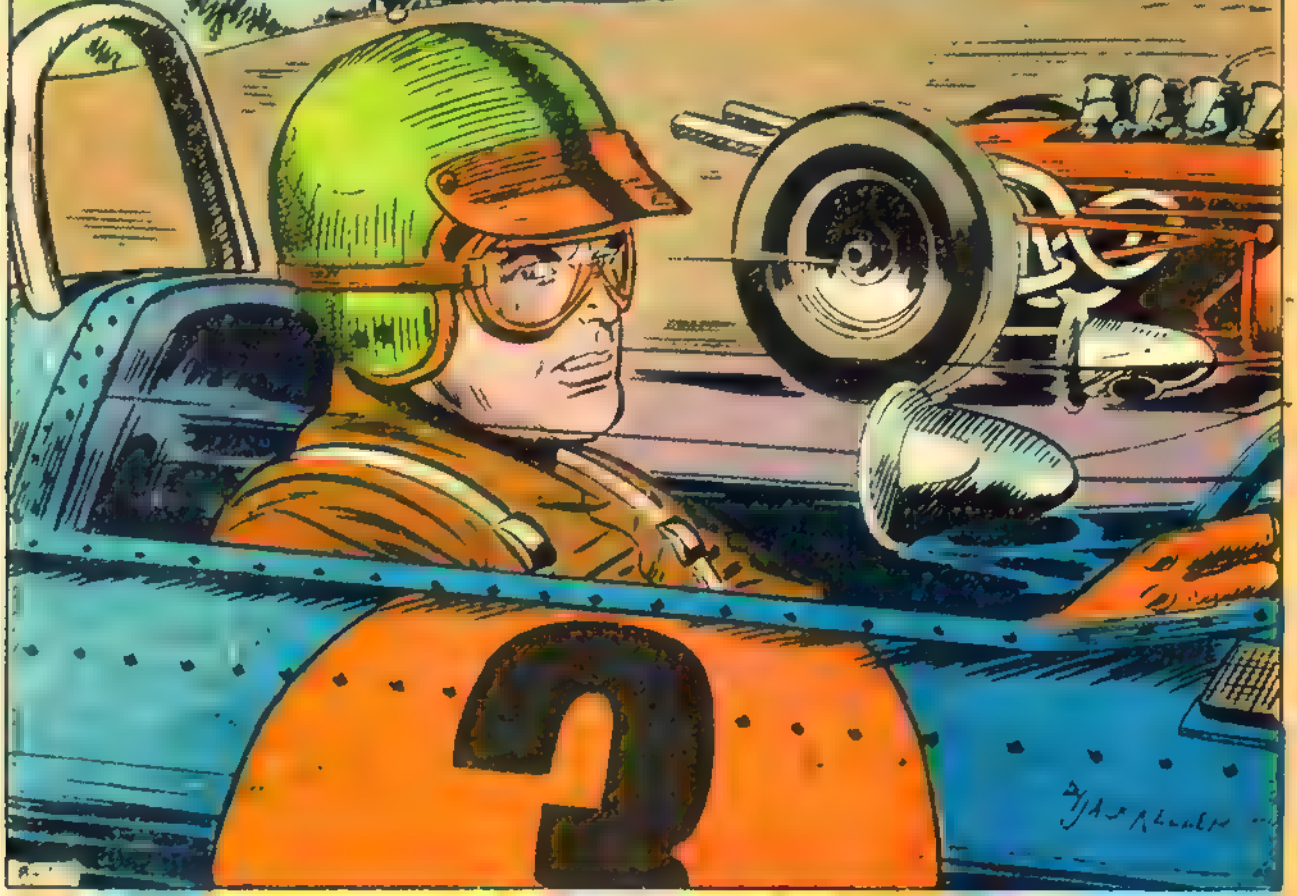
RICK ROBERTS in THE DAY OF THE CAT!

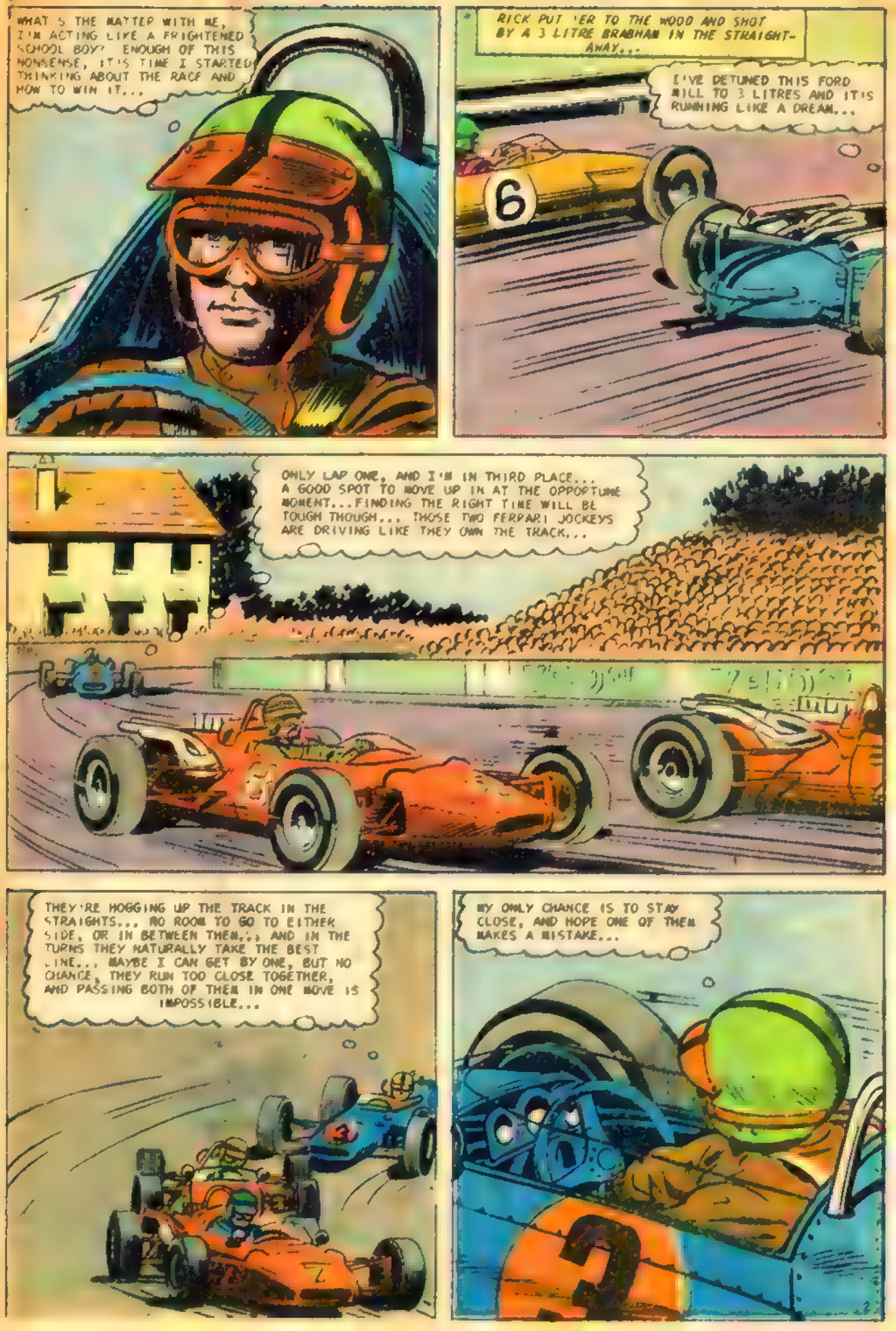
PART III

IN 1946 RICK'S GRANDFATHER, PAT ROBERTS, CRASHED HIS FIAT RACER AFTER THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF A LARGE BLACK CAT... THE CRASH WAS A SERIOUS ONE ENDING HIS CAREER... 20 YEARS LATER, 1966, RICK'S FATHER, BILL, MET THE SAME SORRY FATE, WHEN HE TOO WAS SURPRISED BY THE UNEXPECTED APPEARANCE OF THE BLACK CAT... WAS IT ALL MERE CIRCUMSTANCE, OR WAS IT FULFILLMENT OF THE OLD GYPSIES CURSE? -SHE FORETOLD THAT 3 GENERATIONS OF THE ROBERTS FAMILY WOULD CRASH AT REIMS, FRANCE, EXACTLY 30 YEARS APART... TWICE THE CURSE HAD BEEN EXECUTED... WAS IT TO OCCUR YET A THIRD TIME, ENDING THE CAREER OF WORLD CHAMPION RICK ROBERTS?

REIMS 1966, SHORTLY AFTER THE START OF THE FRENCH GRAND PRIX...

MY GOOD SENSE TELLS ME THAT THE WHOLE STORY OF THE BLACK CAT IS MERE CIRCUMSTANCE AND SUPERSTITION... I SHOULD CAST IT FROM MY MIND ONCE AND FOR ALL... BUT AFTER WHAT HAS HAPPENED BEFORE TO MY FATHER AND GRANDFATHER, I JUST CAN'T ERASE THE HAUNTING THOUGHT, THAT THE CAT WILL APPEAR AGAIN, AND I TOO, WILL BE ITS VICTIM!




WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH ME, I'M ACTING LIKE A FRIGHTENED SCHOOL BOY! ENOUGH OF THIS NONSENSE, IT'S TIME I STARTED THINKING ABOUT THE RACE AND HOW TO WIN IT...
RICK PUT 'ER TO THE WOOD AND SHOT BY A 3 LITRE BRABHAM IN THE STRAIGHT-AWAY...
I'VE DETUNED THIS FORD MILL TO 3 LITRES AND IT'S RUNNING LIKE A DREAM...
6
ONLY LAP ONE, AND I'M IN THIRD PLACE... A GOOD SPOT TO MOVE UP IN AT THE OPPORTUNE MOMENT...FINDING THE RIGHT TIME WILL BE TOUGH THOUGH... THOSE TWO FERRARI JOCKEYS ARE DRIVING LIKE THEY OWN THE TRACK...
THEY'RE HOGGING UP THE TRACK IN THE STRAIGHTS... NO ROOM TO GO TO EITHER SIDE, OR IN BETWEEN THEM,,, AND IN THE TURNS THEY NATURALLY TAKE THE BEST LINE... MAYBE I CAN GET BY ONE, BUT NO CHANCE, THEY RUN TOO CLOSE TOGETHER, AND PASSING BOTH OF THEM IN ONE MOVE IS IMPOSSIBLE...
MY ONLY CHANCE IS TO STAY CLOSE, AND HOPE ONE OF THEM MAKES A MISTAKE...

RICK FOLLOWED THE SCARLET PAIR RELENTLESSLY BUT THE FERRARI DRIVERS CONTINUED THEIR ROAD BLOCKING TACTICS, AND RICK COULD NOT GET BY...

ONE THING'S FOR SURE, THIS PAIR IS WELL TRAINED, AND THEY AREN'T ABOUT TO BREAK UP THEIR ACT...

THAT IS, UNLESS THEY GET A LITTLE HELP FROM ME...

MIDWAY THROUGH THE RACE, THE 3 LEADERS BEGAN LAPPING THE TAIL-ENDERS...

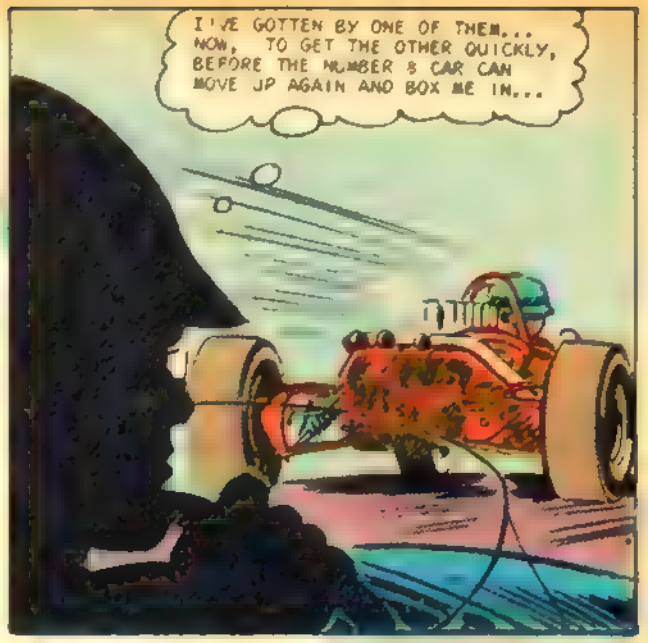
IF I KEEP PLAYING FOLLOW THE LEADER I'M NEVER GONNA PASS 'EM... I'VE GOT TO TAKE A CHANCE, AND THERE'S NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT!

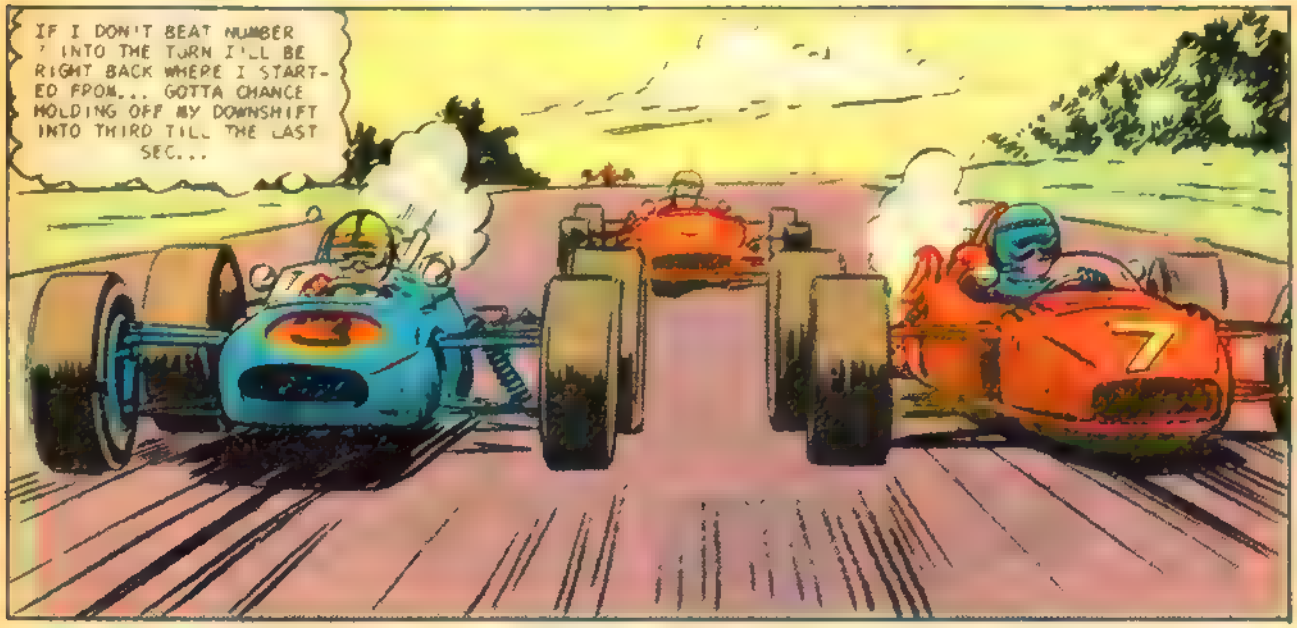
WITH TWO WHEELS ON THE GRASS, I JUST MIGHT GET BY AND BEAT THE NUMBER 8 FERRARI AROUND THIS HONDA!

SURPRISE! IT'S ONLY ME! SO DON'T JUMP OUT OF YOUR SKIN FELLA!

WHA? WHERE DID HE COME FROM?

STARTLED BY RICK S SUDDEN APPEARANCE TO HIS RIGHT, THE HONDA DRIVER IN-STINCTIVELY CUT HIS WHEEL TO THE LEFT.. CUTTING OFF AND NEARLY COLLIDING WITH THE NUMBER 8 FERRARI TO HIS LEFT...
LOOK OUT!




IF I DON'T BEAT NUMBER 7 INTO THE TURN I'LL BE RIGHT BACK WHERE I STARTED FROM... GOTTA CHANCE HOLDING OFF MY DOWNSHIFT INTO THIRD TILL THE LAST SEC...

MY CAR'S FASTER ON THE TOP END THAN THE FERRARI'S... I SHOULD HAVE LITTLE TROUBLE STAYING OUT IN FRONT OF THEM FOR THE REST OF THE RACE...

CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT PAGE

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UP AHEAD... SOMETHING CROSSING THE ROAD?!
IT'S THE
CAT!
BACK IN THE STANDS, RICK'S FATHER AND GRANDFATHER, WERE STARTLED BY AN ANNOUNCEMENT OVER THE P.A. SYSTEM...
CAR NUMBER 3, DRIVEN BY RICK ROBERTS, HAS SPUN OFF THE ROAD... HE'S GOING TO CRASH!
NO, NOT RICK!
WAIT A MINUTE, ROBERTS HAS PULLED OUT OF IT, JUST BARELY MISSED A TREE... BUT HE'S STALLED HIS MOTOR, AND THERE GO THE TWO FERRARIS BACK INTO THE LEAD!
THANK GOODNESS, RICK IS ALL RIGHT...
YES, THE RACE DOESN'T MATTER, JUST RICK...
5

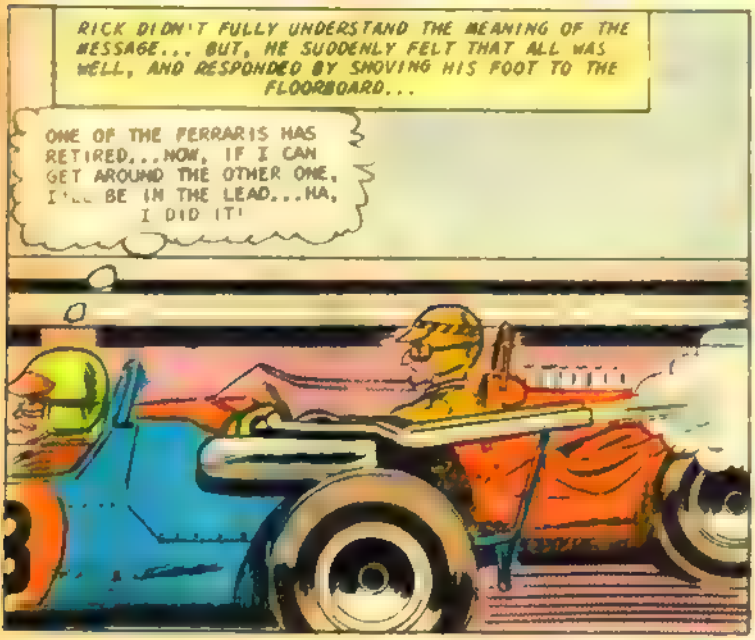
IT SEEMS ROBERTS SPUN OUT, TRYING TO AVOID HITTING A CAT...BUT, GOOD NEWS, ROBERTS HAS RESTARTED HIS CAR AND IS BACK IN THE RACE!
IT'S THE GYPSIES CURSE... RICK IS DOOMED IF HE CONTINUES THIS RACE...
WE'VE GOT TO STOP RICK, WE MUST SAVE THE BOY...
WE'RE GOING TO DO SOMETHING, BUT NOT STOP RICK...I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS BLASTED CURSE ...COME ON DAD, THE SPOT WHERE RICK SPUN OUT ISN'T FAR FROM HERE...
C'MON GIVE ME YOUR HAND!
BUT SON, THIS IS MADNESS ...WE KNOW THE CURSE IS TRUE...WE MUST STOP RICK BEFORE THE CAT STRIKES AGAIN!
NONSENSE, I'VE HAD MY FILL OF THIS OLD FABLE ...THERE'S GOT TO BE A LOGICAL EXPLANATION, AND I AIM TO FIND IT...
IT MUST BE GYPSY BLACK MAGIC, WHAT ELSE COULD IT BE---WAIT! THAT HUNCHBACK CARRYING THE BAG, STOP HIM!
HEY YOU! WITH THE BAG, HOLD ON A MINUTE!
WHAT? NO-STAY AWAY FROM ME, I DO NOT KNOW YOU...
HE'S TRYING TO GET AWAY! STOP HIM, BILL!
GOT HIM!
LET ME ALONE, I AM JUST A POOR OLD MAN ...WHY DO YOU BOTHER ME?
OKAY, DAD, YOU TELL HIM AND ME, WHY DO YOU WANT HIM? WHO IS HE?
JANO! THE GYPSY! THE ONE I THRASHED 60 YEARS AGO, WHEN HE AND HIS CUTHROATS REFUSED TO LEAVE MY ESTATE...IT WAS HIS GRANDMOTHER THAT PLACED THE CURSE OF THE BLACK CAT ON OUR HEADS...

LET'S SEE WHAT HE HAS IN THIS BAG... HMMM, JUST AS I THOUGHT, A BLACK CAT...
I'VE GOT A FEELING THAT JANO HAS BEEN MAKING SURE THE CURSE WOULD COME TRUE BY PLACING THE CATS IN OUR PATHS...
MEEEOW!

YES, I DID IT, AND I M GLAD... I GOT BOTH OF YOU...I'M ONLY SORRY THAT I FAILED TODAY... I OWED YOU SOMETHING FOR THIS BACK OF MINE, PAT ROBERTS!
TO THINK THAT I WAS FOOL ENOUGH TO BE-LIEVE IT WAS A CURSE ALL THESE YEARS...

SHALL I TURN HIM OVER TO THE POLICE, DAD?
NO, NOW THAT WE FOUND HIM OUT HE'S PERFECTLY HARMLESS ...HE'S JUST A SICK OLD MAN ...BUT COME, WE MUST GET TO THE PITS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

RICK WAS RIDING IN THE NUMBER 3 POSITION JUST SECONDS BEHIND THE LEADING FERRARIS, WHEN HE GOT A SOMEWHAT CONFUSING, BUT MOST WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE PITS...
GO RICK GO!


RICK DIDN'T FULLY UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE MESSAGE... BUT, HE SUDDENLY FELT THAT ALL WAS WELL, AND RESPONDED BY SHOVING HIS FOOT TO THE FLOORBOARD...
ONE OF THE FERRARIS HAS RETIRED...NOW, IF I CAN GET AROUND THE OTHER ONE, I'LL BE IN THE LEAD...HA, I DID IT!

LATER, THE ROBERTS CLAN CELEBRATED RICK'S COME-FROM-BEHIND VICTORY...
SALUTE! TO VICTORY, TO COMMON SENSE, AND THE END OF THE CAT FABLE, FOREVER!
END

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8. I Couldn't Live Without Your Love
9. Blowin' In The Wind
10. Warm And Tender Love
11. Pretty Flamingo
12. See You In September
13. Pound It Bloys
14. I Am A Rock
15. Red Rubber Ball
16. Green Grass
17. Opus 17
18. Girl In Love
19. Sure Gonna Miss Her
20. Daydream
21. Somewhere
22. Bang Bang
23. Good Lovin'
24. Kicks
25. Michelle
26. Tell Me Why
27. Can You Please Crawl Out Your Window
28. Sounds Of Silence
29. Five O'Clock Worlds
30. A Well Respected Man
31. Turn Turn Turn
32. I Hear A Symphony
33. But You're Mine
34. Get Off Of My Cloud
35. Positively 4th Street
36. Run Baby Run

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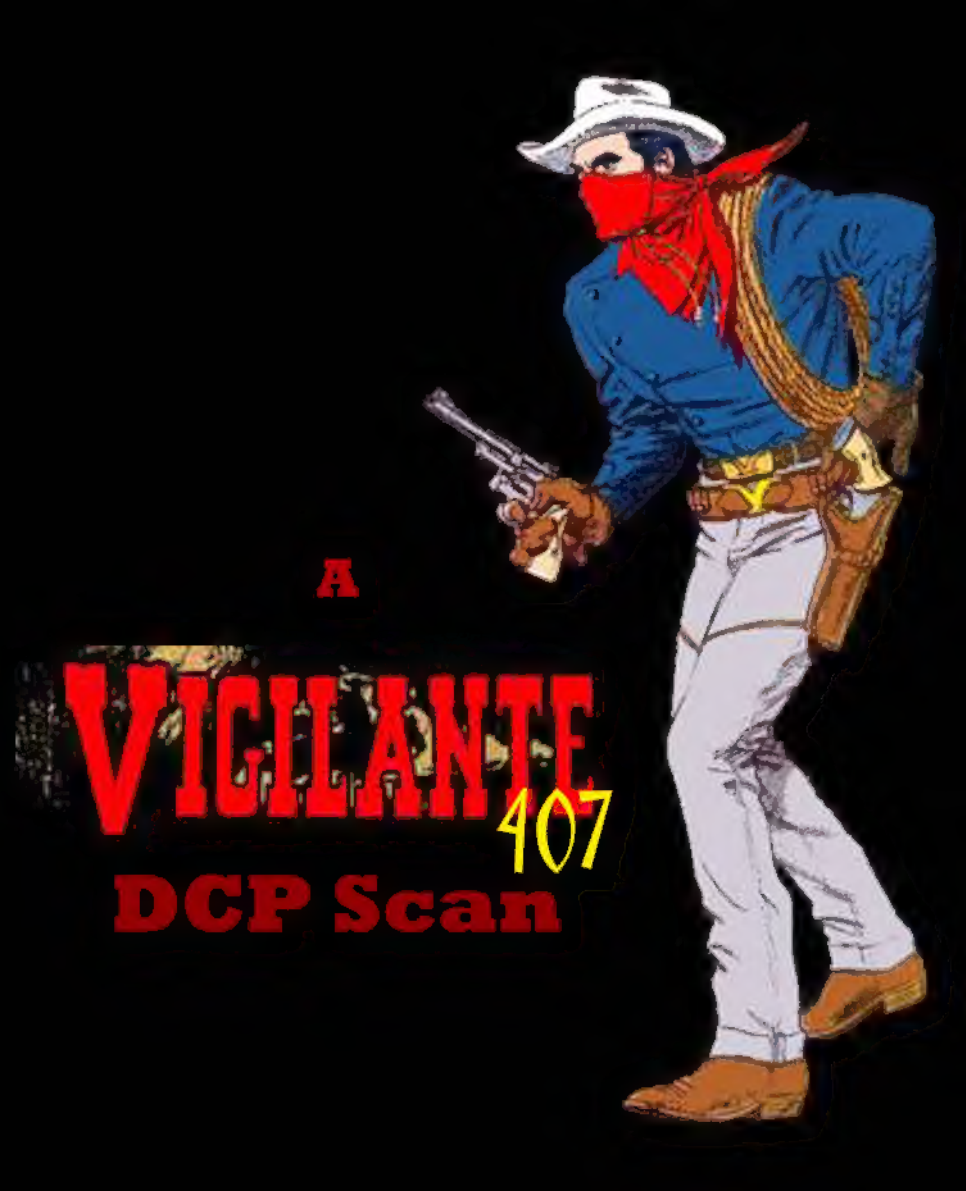
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